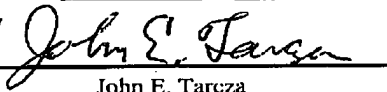


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DEC 08 2004

Docket Number: 2316-152

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	Examiner: Michael D. BURKHART
)	
Norman G. Anderson et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1636
)	
Serial No.: 10/050,847)	I hereby certify that this correspondence
)	is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO
Filed: January 18, 2002)	number 703-872-9306 on December 8, 2004
)	by 
For: DETECTION AND)	John E. Tarca
CHARACTERIZATION OF)	Reg. No. 33,638
MICROORGANISMS)	

AMENDMENT UNDER 35 USC 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 8, 2004

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Rejection mailed September 8, 2004, wherein the Examiner set a three-month period for response, this response is timely filed. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.